PROFESSOR ARTHUR EDWARD KENNELLY, D.Sc., was born near Bombay, India, on the 17th December, 1861. He received his early education in private schools in England, Scotland, France, and Belgium, and his first position was on the Staff of the Society of Telegraph Engineers, now The Institution of Electrical Engineers. He joined the Eastern Telegraph Co. in 1876 and was promoted steadily until, in 1886, he became senior electrician on submarine cables, a position which made heavy demands on the technical knowledge and resourcefulness of the holder. This period of his career started him in the direction which formed the basis of his future work in the field of telephony. In 1887 he became associated with Edison and was his principal electrical assistant until 1894. Those years in a hard and intensely practical school were most stimulating to a young engineer. In 1893 he became, in addition, consulting electrician of the Edison Electrical Co., now the General Electric Co. of Schenectady. In 1902 he was appointed Professor of Electrical Engineering at Harvard University and continued in that position until he retired from active service in 1930. From 1913 until 1924 he was Professor of Electrical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and for some years was Director of Electrical Engineering Research and Chairman of the Faculty of that Institute.

He was actively associated with The Institution of Electrical Engineers, of which he was elected a Student in 1876, an Associate in 1884, a Member in 1894, and an Honorary Member in 1918. He came over to England on many occasions to give lectures on special subjects, and was well known to electrical engineers in this country, both on account of his numerous publications and for the courses of lectures that he came to deliver in England. His book on the use of hyperbolic functions in electrical engineering is a standard work on the subject. One of his outstanding achievements was the suggestion, at the same time as Heaviside, that the transmission of wireless signals across the Atlantic was due to the presence of a reflecting layer in the upper region of the atmosphere, which has been given the name of the Heaviside–Kennelly layer.

Dr. Kennelly found time and energy to engage in many outside activities. He served two terms as President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers from 1898 to 1900, and was President of the Illuminating Engineering Society during the early days of that organization. He was President of the Institute of Radio Engineers, of the Metric Association, and of the Union Radio Scientifique Internationale, and was Honorary Secretary of the U.S. Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission.

In the international field his services have been of unusual distinction. He was the U.S. delegate of the Electrical Congresses of 1900 and 1904, when he carried out the onerous duties of General Secretary, and again in 1932, also at the International Radio Conference in Paris in 1921 and in Washington in 1927, where international allocations of radio-transmission frequencies were made. He was a member of the International

Committee of Weights and Measures and attended the last meeting at Sèvres in 1933. In 1921–22 he represented seven co-operating American universities as first Exchange Professor in Engineering and Applied Science at several French universities.

He published several books and was the author of more than 350 papers presented before scientific organizations at home and abroad. He gave his time to committee work without stint, and neither desired nor received any personal credit for it. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Committee of Electrical Definitions, which has already accomplished some important work. His most recent work was the effort that he made towards the establishment of the practical M.K.S. system of units, and he tried hard to get an agreement which would include the mechanical as well as the electrical units. In conference and committee work he was always anxious to get something done and something agreed to. He never attempted to force his own views on his colleagues. He saw his adversaries' point of view as well as his own and was always fair, judicial, and tolerant.

In addition to being an Honorary Member of The Institution, he was also an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, of the Société Français des Électriciens, of the Elektrotechnischer Verein, and of the Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan. He was a member of the American National Academy of Science, of the American Philosophical Society, and of the American Physical Society, and was a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1933 he received the Edison Medal of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and was also awarded the Volta Medal in 1927 and a gold medal of the Institute of Radio Engineers in 1932. The French Government conferred upon him the Cross of the Legion of Honour.

To those who knew him personally, he was always a kindly and generous friend and his name will long be remembered by all electrical engineers, both in Europe and in America. E. W. M.